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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/629,200	07/31/2000	Sin-Mei Tsai	P3928	5556

24739	7590	08/25/2004

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EXAMINER
REVAK, CHRISTOPHER A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2131	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 July 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1.   The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The current status of related applications in the applicant's specification is not listed,

namely on page 1, lines 23-24 & 27, and on page 12, line 10. The specification should

be amended to indicate that S/N 09/208,740 is now U.S. Patent 6,412,073, S/N

09/398,320 is now U.S. Patent 6,477,565, and S/N 09/323,598 is now U.S. Patent

6,199,077.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1,2,5-11, and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Zollinger et al, U.S. Patent 5,999,947.

As per claim 1, it is disclosed by Zollinger et al of a system for synchronizing data

records between a (network data) server and a requesting client device (col. 2, lines 63-

67, col. 3, lines 49-52, and col. 4, lines 28-33). It is recited of a client software

application, an network server software application, and the client application maintains

a (first) database table of version (unique) identifiers for data records stored at the client

and sends a copy of the table with a request to a server for data from the server. The

server maintains a (second) database table of version (unique) identifiers for candidate

data records to be sent to the client (col. 3, lines 30-52). The examiner notes that the

identifiers at the server and client are formed by a common process since the server

can interpret the client's identifiers to determine if synchronization is needed (col. 3,

lines 52-64). The server receives the request and first (database) table from the client,

compares the two database tables, and then only sends the client those records as

indicated by comparison as being new to the client and a notification of the database

table updates (col. 3, lines 52-64).

As per claims 2 and 11, it is taught by Zollinger et al that the network is the

Internet (col. 7, lines 55-67).

As per claims 5 and 14, Zollinger et al recites that client updates the (first)

database table each time the client receives records and notifications of the table

updates, and sends the updated table the next time data is requested (col. 2, lines 63-

67 and col. 3, lines 47-67).

As per claims 6 and 15, Zollinger et al teaches of a requesting client device

(handheld portable device) that is coupled to a server (host computer) from a hotel room

that is connected to the network and client software applications executes on the client

(portable device)(col. 1, lines 55-59 and col. 5, lines 8-18).

As per claims 7 and 16, it is disclosed by Zollinger et al that the formation of the identifiers is accomplished at the server (host computer)(col. 3, lines 47-52 and col. 11, lines 50-64).

As per claim 8, Zollinger et al discloses of client devices requesting (based upon selection in a user display) updates based upon version (unique) identifiers corresponding to a database table (col. 3, lines 30-52). It is implied that an application program interface (API) is used since they are a set of routines used by an application program, which in light of the teachings of Zollinger et al is the software process for synchronizing database records, to direct the execution of routines by the client's operating system.

As per claim 9, Zollinger et al discloses of a method for synchronizing data records between a (network data) server and a requesting client device (col. 2, lines 63-67, col. 3, lines 49-52, and col. 14, lines 55-58). It is recited of a maintaining a (first) database table of version (unique) identifiers for data records stored at the client and sends a copy of the table to a server with a request for data from the server. The server maintains a (second) database table of version (unique) identifiers for candidate data records to be sent to the client (col. 3, lines 30-52). The examiner notes that the identifiers at the server and client are formed by a common process since the server can interpret the client's identifiers to determine if synchronization is needed (col. 3, lines 52-64). The server receives the request and first (database) table from the client, compares the two database tables, and then only sends the client those records as

indicated by comparison as being new to the client and a notification of the database

table updates (col. 3, lines 52-64).

As per claim 10, it is taught by Zollinger et al of sending a notification of the

differences in the tables to the client (col. 3, lines 59-64).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 3,4,12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Zollinger et al, U.S. Patent 5,999,947 in view of Wu, U.S. Patent

6,463,427.

The teachings of Zollinger et al are relied upon for the disclosure of updating

database records based on an identifier (col. 3, lines 30-52). The teachings of Zollinger

et al are silent in disclosing that the identifier is created using a cyclic redundancy check

(CRC) function wherein it is computed from the header and body portions of data

records. It is disclosed by Wu a CRC process that is computed as a function of an

object (including header and body portions of data records) that is used to synchronize

data records (col. 2, lines 18-35). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

skill to have been motivated to apply the use of CRCs as a form of identifiers to assist in

synchronizing data records. Wu recites motivation for the use of CRCs by disclosing

long term IDs vary from object to object and searching for changes during

synchronization can be slow in the prior art, so the CRC is a function of the object (data

record) which is faster in the synchronization process (col. 2, lines 13-15 and col. 7,

lines 57-64). It is obvious that the teachings of Zollinger et al would have found the

disclosure of Wu beneficial as a means of increasing the speed of synchronizations for

updating data records.

Conclusion

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

Please see attached PTO-892

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Christopher A. Revak whose telephone number is 703-

305-1843. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 6:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

                                        Christopher Revak
                                        AU 2131

                                        CRR

                                        8/21/04

CR
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August 21, 2004